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SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Letter dated 21 July 1997 from the representatives of the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the texts of statements by the Presidents of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania on cooperation in combating organized crime (see annex I) and on trilateral cooperation (see annex II), and the protocol on trilateral cooperation between the Governments of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania (see annex III), signed on behalf of those Governments by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the three countries on 3 July 1997 in Izmail, Ukraine.

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 38, 81 and 105 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Yuriy BOHAIEVS'KY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Ukraine to the United Nations

(Signed) Igor CIOBANU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations

(Signed) Petru DUMITRIU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of Romania to the United Nations

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ANNEX I

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Presidents of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania on cooperation in combating organized crime

The Presidents of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania,

Considering the need for a decisive strengthening of measures to combat organized crime, including its transboundary aspects,

Convinced that such cooperation is an inalienable and integral part of all-European efforts in this area,

Emphasizing that such cooperation will constitute one more important step towards the integration of the three States into European structures, and anticipating appropriate assistance from other European States,

Convinced that cooperation in combating organized crime will help create conditions conducive to the further strengthening of cooperation in diverse areas, particularly in the fields of economy and trade,

Instruct their Governments:

1. To take the necessary measures to coordinate their national legislation on combating organized crime and terrorism.

2. To intensify measures to combat illegal trafficking in arms, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

3. To step up measures to combat crime in foreign commercial transactions and in the field of taxation, and also in the area of illegal migration and movement across borders, and other illegal activities.

4. To cooperate in training qualified personnel, exchanging information and coordinating the activities of the relevant services.

5. To establish the necessary mechanisms for cooperation among the law-enforcement bodies at the State and local levels and to report on progress achieved before 1 September 1997.

Izmail, 4 July 1997

Leonid KUCHMA President of Ukraine	Petru LUCINSCHI President of the Republic of Moldova	Emil KONSTANTINESCU President of Romania

ANNEX II

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Presidents of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania on trilateral cooperation

Considering the present and future interests of the peoples of their States,

Reaffirming the political commitment of their States to develop and improve relations of good-neighbourliness, friendly cooperation and partnership,

Convinced that the development of regional cooperation is an important factor in strengthening European stability and security in the interests of the entire continent,

Wishing to adopt and implement projects of common interest in all fields of activity, particularly economic activity, and to broaden areas of cooperation among the three States,

The Presidents of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania, meeting in Izmail on 3 July 1997, agreed to deepen and enhance trilateral cooperation and to this end have agreed:

1. To instruct their ministries of foreign affairs to hold consultations on all questions of mutual interest relating to the strengthening of peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

2. To meet at least once a year and to intensify trilateral contacts at the level of Prime Ministers, Ministers for Foreign Affairs, other members of their Governments and high-ranking officials. To establish a timetable for regular meetings with a view to evaluating results and preparing further necessary measures.

3. To promote the improvement of the contractual basis for their mutual relations through negotiations and the conclusion of treaties on questions of mutual interest, and also to bring their national legislation into line with generally accepted European standards.

4. To promote the development of direct contacts between people and non-governmental organizations with a view to deepening ties of friendly cooperation in various fields among the three countries.

5. To support initiatives and projects involving the three States, in particular, the development of border cooperation, direct ties between administrative units, the creation of the Lower Danube and Upper Prut "Euro-regions", and also a local free economic zone in the Reni-Galaţi-Giurgiuleşti region.

6. To instruct the appropriate executive bodies to consider in a constructive spirit and draft proposals to encourage trade, the implementation of cooperation projects, the creation of a trilateral consultative mechanism in the financial and economic field.

7. To promote the harmonization of the three States' common positions and actions in their relations with regional, European, "Euro-Atlantic" and international organizations.

The areas and specific activities of trilateral cooperation that are of mutual interest are contained in the additional protocol signed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

Leonid KUCHMA President of Ukraine	Petru LUCINSCHI President of the Republic of Moldova	Emil CONSTANTINESCU President of Romania

ANNEX III

[Original: Russian]

Protocol between the Governments of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Romania on trilateral cooperation

With a view to implementing the statement by the Presidents of Romania, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, the Governments of the three States shall take the following measures:

I. IN THE POLITICAL FIELD

1. They shall agree on a timetable of trilateral meetings, at least once a year, at the level of Prime Ministers and Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

2. They shall hold periodic meetings at the level of other ministries and central departments in agreed fields. The areas of cooperation are virtually unlimited and shall be based on the principle of common interest.

3. They shall encourage the conclusion of trilateral interdepartmental protocols with a view to implementing agreements reached at the government level.

4. They shall promote contacts among their parliaments in order to consider proposals on harmonizing national legislation in fields of mutual interest, in accordance with accepted European standards.

5. They shall hold trilateral consultations and exchange information with a view to harmonizing, as necessary, their positions and joint initiatives in governmental organizations in which the three States participate (the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Central European Initiative, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, and others).

6. They shall, as necessary, support each other's efforts to become members of international organizations, depending on the expressed interest of the parties.

II. IN THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC FIELD

1. They shall jointly develop, at the level of governmental experts, measures to create a trilateral consultative mechanism on economic cooperation, whose main objective would be to broaden trade, harmonize trade regimes and identify new cooperation projects.

2. Together with interested departments at the central and local levels, they shall define concrete measures within the framework of joint programmes to implement agreements on the development of the Lower Danube and Upper Prut

"Euro-regions" and the local free economic zone in the Reni-Galaţi-Giurgiuleşti region, and shall also draw up, with the participation of representatives of the relevant ministries of the three States, a tentative list of priority projects concerning which mutual interest has already been expressed, such as the creation of local free economic zones, cooperation on the Danube, modernization of transport (river, rail and road) infrastructure in accordance with international programmes for creating pan-European corridors.

3. They shall take joint actions in international financial and economic organizations with a view to ensuring appropriate funding for projects agreed on at the trilateral level, including requests to make use of the European Union's integrated international assistance programmes, such as Poland-Hungary Aid for the Reconstruction of the Economy (PHARE) and technical assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States (TACIS), as well as appropriate programmes within the framework of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

III. IN THE FIELD OF BORDER COOPERATION

1. They shall promote the establishment and development of direct ties among government bodies, particularly in the border regions of the three countries, with a view to developing cooperation among administrative units in accordance with the concept of "Euro-regions".

2. They shall support the development of direct contacts in the fields of economy, culture and education, science and sport among nationals of their countries and among intergovernmental organizations that have the same objectives.

3. They shall ensure the progressive implementation of generally accepted European environmental standards in the relevant regions.

4. With a view to creating conditions conducive to the movement of people and goods and services among the three countries, new international border-crossing points shall be opened, conditions for small border trade in adjacent regions shall be facilitated and procedures for the entry and exit of inhabitants of border regions shall be simplified in accordance with international regulations in this area.

5. They shall create joint information and cooperation mechanisms with a view to protecting persons belonging to national, ethnic or religious minorities, in accordance with European standards in this field and international treaties to which the three States are parties.

6. They shall promote the harmonization of their countries' national legislation on combating organized transnational crime and terrorism, including illegal trafficking in arms, narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors, explosives and other hazardous materials, hijacking of motor transport, counterfeiting, money-laundering, crime in the area of foreign economic and banking transactions and taxation, and illegal migration and illegal crossing of borders. In order to achieve their objectives in combating

crime, they shall promote the establishment of appropriate mechanisms for cooperation among the law-enforcement bodies at the central and local levels.

Izmail, 3 July 1997

For the Government of Ukraine:	For the Government of the Republic of Moldova:	For the Government of Romania:
Hennady UDOVENKO Minister for Foreign Affairs	Mihai POPOV Minister for Foreign Affairs	Andrian SEVERIN State Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs

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